

In the Specification:

Please replace the following amended paragraphs:

The paragraph bridging pages 9 and 10, page 9, paragraph 7, lines 2 to 23 and page 10, paragraph 1, lines 1 to 5, insert the following paragraph.

The machine is operated in such a manner that the fluidization water flow rate is set so that the beads are lifted away from the back screen and are essentially fluid or floating. The surface screen is essentially there so that these beads do not get blown out of the recess and into the tails stream. The pinch valves are opened at regular intervals in exactly the same manner as the operating procedure described in the above US patent 6,149,572. The open and close times are variable and allows for a variable amount of mass to be pulled to the concentrate.

Page 11, paragraph 5, lines 19 to 23 insert the following paragraph:

The materials discharged from the open mouth is collected within a first launder 20 for collection and transportation to a discharge area. The heavier materials collected within the recess of ring ~~26~~ 17 is discharged from the assembly 19 and collected within a middle launder 21A. Similarly the material discharged from the ring ~~27~~ recess 18 is collected within a third launder 21B.

Page 12, paragraph 3, lines 4 to 10 insert the following paragraph:

Reference is made to Knelson US patents 5,601,523, 5,601,524 and WO97/02894 (mentioned above) all of which disclose various constructional features of the above machine. In particular construction of the shaft is shown in US Patent 5,601,524. Further the general shape of the bowl including a lower frusto-conical

portion 16A which directs the feed material across the recesses 17 and 18 is shown in US Patent 5,586,965. The further patents can be referred to for further details of

The paragraph bridging pages 12 and 13, page 12, paragraph 7, lines 22 to 23 and page 13, paragraph 1, lines 1 to 3, insert the following paragraph.

The general shape of the bowl including the two recesses 17 and 18 together with the first conical section 16 is substantially as described in US Patent 5,586,965. However the bowl as shown herein is modified relative to the bowl of the above patent in that it includes a bottom discharge opening 11B connecting to ducts 1 and a base plate 11A above the bottom discharge opening.

Page 13, paragraph 3, lines 11 to 19 insert the following paragraph:

As best shown in Figure 2, the recesses are modified to include an additional insert member 30 which is mounted in the recess at the mouth of the recess. The recess is thus defined by an inner edge 31 on the bottom side wall 32 and an inner edge 33 on the top side wall 34. Each of the side walls includes a first portion lying in a radial plane of the axis 14. The upper side wall 34 includes the radial portion 35 which can be removed to allow insertion of the annular member 30 at that position. Each of the side walls from its radial portion includes an inwardly converging portion 36 which extends to a base 37 at which is located the port 19A of the ~~discharge conduit~~ discharge valve assembly 19 which includes the valve 19B.